

Monitoring and Adaptive Management

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Corps Civil Works Policy on Monitoring and Adaptive Management

- Planning Guidance Notebook
 - ER 1105-2-100
 - Appendix F (CAP authorities)
- EC 11-5-2-409

Corps Civil Works Policy

- Acknowledges uncertainty
- Requires Risk and Uncertainty discussion
 - Uncertainty of restoration measures
 - Uncertainty of system response
 - Nature or resource risks
- Allows for justified monitoring and adaptive management
- Is Project focused

Corps Civil Works Policy - Monitoring

- Can be part of normal O&M
- Can be cost-shared where risk and uncertainty of achieving outputs is high
- Rationale for monitoring plans must include key project specific parameters and how they relate to achieving desired outcomes and potential adaptations
- Developed in coordination with sponsor or ultimate project operator
- Included in appropriate decision document

Corps Civil Works Policy - Monitoring – Con't

- Funded under CG
- Not to exceed 1 percent of the total first cost of element(s) to be monitored and not to exceed 5 years following completion of project
- Exceptions considered on a case-by-case basis with supporting rationale
- Collaborative monitoring efforts encouraged
- Not for basic research

Corps Civil Works Policy – Adaptive Management

- Allows actions to proceed in the context of uncertainty
- Provides opportunities to assess project and program performance and future investment decision making
- Not a substitute for good planning

Corps Civil Works Policy – Adaptive Management

- Nature and costs of adaptive management actions need to be described in the decision document
- Adaptive management costs cannot exceed 3 percent of the total project cost excluding the monitoring costs
- Adaptive management cost shared with non-Federal sponsor
- No adaptive management for CAP projects

Iterative Process with Feedback Among:

- Planning
- Implementation
- Operation and maintenance
- Monitoring and assessment
- Design Improvement
- Evolution of Policy and Procedures
- Criteria for future management actions

Challenges

- Objectives, monitoring and Adaptive management must be linked, yet:
 - Significance of resources and output problems not identified
 - Poorly specified objectives
 - Poor selection of “indicators” of outputs
 - Future without conditions not defined
- Limited discussion of “system contexts”

More Challenges

- Innovative and Affordable Monitoring
 - Achieve economies of scale
 - Leverage resources among partners, stakeholders, projects
- Collaborative assessment and evaluation
 - Assure scientific credibility
 - Contribute to broader knowledge base